

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BERN 01337 301514Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----301524Z 054386 /46

O 301456Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4126
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BERN 1337

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR SY US XF SZ
SUBJ: PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH THE SYRIAN PRESIDENT IN GENEVA

REF: STATE 69289

1. I GAVE HEGNER THE NAME OF THE CHALET HENRY CATTO IS CLEARLY REFERRING TO (THE GALLATIN HOUSE IN GENTHOD). I EMPHASIZED THAT WE ARE NOT PROPOSING THIS PARTICULAR SITE AND ARE HOPING THAT THE SWISS WILL SUGGEST THE MEETING PLACE OR PLACES WHICH IN THEIR JUDGMENT WOULD BEST MEET THE NEED. HEGNER ALREADY HAD THE GALLATIN HOUSE UNDER CONSIDERATION, BUT MENTIONED IN PASSING THAT A POSSIBLE DISADVANTAGE MIGHT BE THE FACT THAT ONE HAS TO PASS OVER TWO LARGE HIGHWAYS ON OVERPASSES IN ORDER TO GET FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE HOUSE.

2. HEGNER ASKED TWO OR THREE QUESTIONS, THE ANSWERS TO WHICH WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THE SWISS IN THINKING ABOUT PLACES:

A. ROUGHLY HOW MANY PEOPLE WOULD THE AMERICAN SIDE WISH TO HAVE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO THE PRESIDENT AT THE MEETING PLACE (AS DISTINGUISHED FROM THE U S SECRET

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MISSION BUILDING OR OTHER PREMISES)?

B. DO WE ENVISAGE A COMPLETE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IN THE HOUSE WHICH WOULD SERVE AS THE MEETING SITE, OR MIGHT PART OF OUR COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY BE ESTABLISHED AT THE U S MISSION OR SOME OTHER LOCALITY?

C. DO WE ENVISAGE THE TWO PRESIDENTS HAVING DINNER
TOGETHER IN THE HOUSE WHICH WOULD SERVE AS A MEETING SITE?

D. WOULD WE WISH TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE
PRESIDENT MIGHT BE TRANSPORTED BY A SHORT HELICOPTER
RIDE FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE MEETING SITE? THE SWISS
WOULD PROVIDE A DOUBLE-ROTOR HELICOPTER OR WOULD BE
AMENABLE TO OUR BRINGING ONE IN FROM GERMANY OR THE UNITED
STATES.

3. HEGNER IS GOING TO GENEVA TOMORROW TO LOOK OVER A
NUMBER OF PLACES AND WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH US AGAIN
WHEN HE GETS BACK. DAVIS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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